

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01

AF-10 EUR-25 DRC-01 /145 W
----- 032703

O 050920Z NOV 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4215

INFO AMEMBASSYAMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TELAVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION UN IMMEDIATE

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS REFLECTS INCREASING TENSION

1. FOLLOWING HEADLINES GIVE ACCURATE PICTURE OF TONE OF
TODAYS PRESS:

(A) AHAM:

"EXPLOSIVE SITUATION ALL ALONG THE LINES ON FRONT"

"SHELLING HAS NOT STOPPED WHILE ISRAELI REPORTS INDICATE
THEY ARE PREPARING TO DESTROY CEASEFIRE RESOLUTION"

"ISRAELI COMMAND SAYS BIG EGYPTIAN FORCES ARRIVED IN
CANAL ZONE DURING LAST FEW HOURS"

"OBVIOUS CONCERN IN WASHINGTON FOLLOWING KISSINGERS ALL-
NIGHT TALKS WITH ISMAIL FAHMY AND MEIR"

(B) AKHBAR:

"WORLD TALKING ABOUT THREAT THAT LAST CHANCE FOR PEACE
WILL BE LOST"

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"ISRAELI PRESS SAYS: AMERICAN PRESSURE HAS TURNED INTO

ADVICE"

"POLITICAL EXPLOSION IN ISRAEL--PARTIES DEMANDING
COALITION IN ORDER THAT MEIR MAY REMAIN IN POWER"

(C) GUMHURIYYA:

"DAYAN ACCUSES EGYPT OF PREPARING FOR WAR"

"ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER LAUNCHES PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN
DECLARING THAT EGYPTIANS ARE MASSING BIG FORCES ON CANAL"

"ISRAELI NEWSPAPERS SAY: SITUATION IN CANAL ZONE AND
SINAI VERY TENSE"

"PRELIMINARY TO VIOLATION OF CEASEFIRE RESOLUTION"

"ISRAELI ACCUSATIONS CIRCULATING WITH FORCE WHILE TEL
AVIV GOES INTO ACCORD WITH USA ON FRESH SUPPLY OF ARMS
WORTH 1700 MILLION DOLLARS."

2. OTHER ITEMS IN PRESS INCLUDE NOTE THAT WAR MINISTER
ISMAIL MET NOV 4 WITH CHIEF OF UN EMERGENCY FORCE; ARTICLE
IN GUMHURIYYA THAT SYRIA WILL RESUME FIGHTING IF ISRAELI
FORCES DO NOT WITHDRAW FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES; AND
STATEMENT BY GOE OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN THAT ISRAEL MUST WITH-
DRAW IMMEDIATELY TO OCT 22 CEASEFIRE LINES. OFFICIAL
SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT IF ISRAEL PROCRASTINATES, THIS WILL
CREATE A "SERIOUS SITUATION THAT MAY LEAD TO GRAVE CONSEQUENCES
FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST."

3. EDITORIALS. MUSA SABRI IN AKHBAR REFLECTS SAME LINE
HEYKAL TOOK YESTERDAY, THAT EGYPT MUST BE NEITHER OPTIMISTIC
NOR PESSIMISTIC. HE STATES EGYPT IS EXTENDING A HAND FOR
PEACE, BUT IS NOT BEGGING FOR IT. HE WARNS THAT ISRAELIS ARE
INTERESTED IN INDEFINITELY POSTPONING WITHDRAWAL TO
OCT 22 LINES BY HAGGLING ABOUT DETAILS. GUMHURIYYA'S
EDITORIAL NOTES THAT ISRAEL IS PREPARING FOR FURTHER MILITARY
AGGRESSION AND THAT POLITICAL AND MILITARY INITIATIVE SHOULD
NOT PASS FROM ARAB HANDS. ONLY AHAM CALLS FOR A "LEGAL
BASIS" FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF JUST AND FIRM PEACE IN ME?
AHAM'S WRITER SAYS THAT LEGAL RULES FOR CONTRACTUAL AGREE-
MENTS SHOULD NOT BE ABANDONED AND SUGGESTS THAT PARTIES
SHOULD NOT SUBMIT TO LOGIC OF POWER ALONE AS BASIS FOR
SETTLEMENT.

SMITH

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